Literacy among the Tiyyas, Pulayas, and others.

Mr. K. T. MATHEW.

267. Will the Government be pleased to state

(a) The percentage of literacy among 1. the Tiyyas, 2. the Pulayas and other so-called depressed classes;

(b) The total number of Pulaya pupils attending schools in the State yearly in the last six years, and if their number has decreased any year, the reasons for it?

Mr. C. MATTHAI.

(a) 1. Separate figures are not now available;

2. 1·7% to the total population of such classes and 11·8% to the school-going population.

(b) Vide statement appended. (*Vide Appendix XII.*)

Mr. K. T. MATHEW.

Clause (a)—"Separate figures are not available". May I know the reason? In answer to the question put by the Hon'ble Member, Mr. M. Krishna Menon, i. e, question No. 266, the percentage is given. The same question is put by me. The answer is "separate figures are not available".

Mr. M. K. RAMAN.

The answer given to question No. 266 is according to the last Census. The question No. 267 is same as 266.

Mr. C. MATTHAI.

According to the last Census, it might be available.

Mr. K. T. MATHEW.

What is the meaning of making such distinctions between the two questions?

PRESIDENT.

We thought the question requires the latest information.

Mr. K. T. MATHEW.

Clause (b)—Appendix XII. In 1095 the strength of the depressed class was 2,902. In 1100 it is 1,192. There is a decrease in the strength. What is it due to?

Mr. C. MATTHAI.

I have made that point clear in the budget session. Daily feeding has been stopped.

PRESIDENT.

Any particular cause for the gradual reduction of figures?

Mr. K. T. MATHEW.

From 1097 onwards there is gradual decrease. The same conditions prevail.

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PRESIDENT.

"The high figures for 1095 and 1096 relate to the number on the rolls of schools, and are due to the liberal provision made towards the daily feeding of Pulaya pupils, but it is doubtful, if the figures represent the number that actually attended schools."

Mr. C. MATTHAI.

It is impossible to give reasons for slight fluctuations in figures, say, 100 or 200. It may be due to economic conditions due to the floods.

Mr. K. T. MATHEW.

About one-fifth has fallen down. It is said that there was not liberal provision made in later years. After 1098, for 1099 and 1100, we see a steady fall year after year.

PRESIDENT.

We have yet to see what the number is for the remaining years.

Mr. K. T. MATHEW.

We are encouraging Pulaya education, but the result, we find, is otherwise.

Mr. C. MATTHAI.

We said that we stopped daily feeding. In 1099 there was the flood, so that its effects will be felt in the following years also.

Mr. M. K. RAMAN.

Will the Government be pleased to say whether the Government recognise any difference between Tiyyas and Ezhuvas? From the answers given to questions 266 and 267, I think the Government makes some distinction.

Mr. C. MATTHAI.

We do not recognise any difference.

PRESIDENT.

Then what about the Chovas?

Mr. M. K. RAMAN.

That is a name which is applied to both communities. It is something like Brahmins being called Pattars.

Mr. S. F. NUNEZ.

One gentleman in the community of the Hon'ble Member calls himself as Maman Chohan.

Mr. M. K. RAMAN.

That is personal

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